

just as the image itself is hardly to be compared to the Egyptian shaft as a work of art. Still, it will form a more or less interesting and grotesque addition to the collection of oddities at the National Museum. This and the other objects brought away will not be missed, since Easter Island, or Davis's Land, as it used to be called, contains multitudes of rudely carved stone images. It is a lonely spot, of perhaps thirty miles in circumference, forming the extreme southeastern outpost of Polynesia. Its present inhabitants, whose language indicates a common origin with the people of Tahiti, have no knowledge of the origin of these colossal images, or of the race that carved them and constructed the heavy masonry on which many of them rest. One hypothesis is that the presence of the islands in this region, many of which are volcanic in origin, indicates a submerged continent; but this supposition throws no further light on the particular meaning of the Easter Island images.

The transportation of the Easter Island idol to Washington is a considerably less remarkable performance than GORRINGE's famous transfer of the obelisk to New-York.